

Springdale Fire Department

Policy & Procedures Manual

Volume 2 – Operations

Section 201 – Personnel Safety

201.5 – Incident Safety Officer

An Incident Safety Officer, (ISO, radio designation “Safety”) will be utilized on every emergency scene. If the ISO is not assigned, these duties are assumed by the Incident Commander.

An ISO shall always be assigned under the following circumstances:

- Incidents with a greater than Level II alarm assignment.
- Hazardous Materials incidents (except minor fuel spills and gas leaks).
- Technical Rescue incidents.
- When the size and complexity of the incident is such that the IC cannot perform the function.

The ISO shall possess considerable knowledge, training and experience about incident scene operations. The ISO should be able to identify building conditions that indicate a safety hazard to firefighters. On hazardous materials or technical rescue emergencies, a Haz-mat or Technical Rescue Technician shall be assigned as the ISO.

On large or complex incidents a safety group may be established. This safety group will be organized as a sector under the direction of the ISO.

The ISO shall be responsible to monitor conditions, activities, and operations, assuring that safety policies and procedures are followed.

Specifically, the ISO shall:

- Provide input for and approve the incident action plan.
- Monitor incident conditions and order withdrawal or immediate evacuation of the hazard zone if necessary.
- Observe for and correct unsafe acts.
- Observe that proper personal protective equipment is worn.
- Provide air monitoring and assure SCBA is utilized in IDLH conditions.
- Assure that hazard zones are appropriately identified.
- Inspect and approve all rigging systems and belays.
- Provide reconnaissance to the IC.

If conditions, activities or operations do not conform to the fire department’s risk management plan, the ISO shall have the authority to alter, suspend, or terminate those activities. The ISO shall immediately inform the IC of the risk related situation and any corrective action taken.